Royalty rate on Coal production

*315. SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have accepted the proposal for a new royalty rate on coal production;

(b) if so, to what extent the rate will be increased;

(c) whether the consumer States had opposed the increase;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether with the projected increase in coal production from the current level of 310 million tonnes per annum to 400 million tones by the end of the Tenth Five Year Plan, the States are expected to gain from the royalty rates increase?

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SUSHREE UMA BHARTI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, The proposal to increase the rates of royalty on different grades of coal has been accepted by the Government. The revised rates of royalty have since been notified by the Government on 16.8.2002 which are as follows:—

(Rs. per tonnes)

Coal Group	Rates of royalty as on 11.10.1994	Rates of royalty as on 16.8.2002
Group-I Coals:		
(a) Coking Coal		
Steel Grade-I	195.00	
Steel Grade-II	195.00	250.00
Washery Grade-I	195.00	
(b) Hand picked coal produced in the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya* and Nagaland	150.00	
Group-II Coals:		
(a) Coking Coal Washery Grade-II	135.00	
Coking Coal Washery Grade-III	135.00	
(b) Semi-coking Gr.-I	135.00	
Semi-coking Gr.II	135.00	165.00
(c) Non-Coking Coal Grade A	135.00	
Non-Coking Coal Grade B	135.00	

Coal Group	Rates of royalty as on 11.10.1994	Rates of royalty as on 16.8.2002
(d) Ungraded Run of mine coal produced in the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam Meghalaya* and Nagaland.	120.00	
Group-III coals:		
(a) Coking Coal Washery Grade-IV,	95.00	115.00
(b) Non-coking Grade C		
Group-IV coals		
(a) Non-Coking Coal Grade D	70.00	85.00
(b) Non-Coking Coal Grade E		
Group-V coals		
(a) Non-Coking Coal Grade F	50.00	65.00
(b) Non-Coking Coal Grade G		
Group-VI coals		
Coal produced in the State of Andhra Pradesh	75.00	90.00

*The rates of royalty in case of Meghalaya were notified separately in January 1995.

The revised rates are not applicable to the State of West Bengal.

(c) and (d) The States of Karnataka, Haryana and Rajasthan opposed any large increase in royalty rates on coal mainly on the ground of adverse impace on the power tariffs. Jammu & Kashmir also opposed any large increase in royalty.

(e) Yes, Sir.

Conflicts between Bodos and Non-Bodos in Assam

*316. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the new conflicts between Bodos and Non-Bodos in the proposed BTC Areas of Assam;

(b) whether any policy has been formulated to solve this problem; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to deal with the extremists forces of this region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) In order to find a lasting peaceful solution to